

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

All claims and their status are listed below.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the materials provided have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period is based on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

40. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the time period depends on the materials provided, and wherein waiting for a user input waits for a user input entered via a keyboard or position-pointing device.

41. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

42. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device, the method comprising:

providing, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting, which is in accordance with instructions of the computer program, comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received via the computing device to the first window within the time period.

45. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises providing to be presented a question that would not have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the time period.

46. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the waiting includes polling a device driver for a user input.

47. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 46, wherein the device driver is a device driver of a position-pointing device.

48-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises increasing a stimulation level of the materials to be presented.

51. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching includes providing to be presented again at least a portion of materials already presented to the user.

52-55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of
difficulty,
wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the
materials, and
wherein waiting for a user input waits for a physical input from a user to the
computing device.
57. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the time period also depends on a reference response time of the user,
and
wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session
where materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computing device.
- 58-59. (Canceled)
60. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, further
comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.
61. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to
be presented, and
wherein the switching further comprises providing a question to be presented.
62. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to
be presented, and
wherein the changing the pace of presentation of materials includes reducing the
speed of presentation of materials to be presented.
63. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,

wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to be presented, and

wherein the switching further comprises providing to be presented again at least a portion of materials already presented to the user.

64. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, further comprising providing options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the time period.

65. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the question is both displayed on the display and is orally presented.

66. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising providing praises if the answer to the question is correct.

67. (Cancelled)

68. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 45, further comprising providing to be presented again at least a portion of materials already presented to the user to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

69-70. (Cancelled)

71. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device, the method comprising:

providing, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

with no user input to the first window, as indicated by monitoring for a user input via the computing device to the first window, within a time period, but with one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting of the materials comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to be presented.

72. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of difficulty, and

wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

73. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 72, wherein the adjusting of the materials comprises presenting a question.

74. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71, wherein the adjusting of the materials comprises providing options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process.

75. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71 further comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.

76. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of difficulty, and

wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

77. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64,

wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and
wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session
where materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computing device.

78. (Previously presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;

waiting for a user input entered to the first window; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs to the second window during the time period, adjusting materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the time period.

79. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method to assist a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question to be presented.

80. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user is provided with options to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the time period.

81-110. (Canceled)

111. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

112. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on the materials provided to be presented.

113. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on the user.

114. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where materials on a subject were presented to the user.

115. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is on the subject.

116. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is not on the subject.

117. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user's answer to the question is not used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

118. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user's answer to the question is used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

119. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is orally presented.

120. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the adjusting further comprises adjusting an audio effect.

121. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the adjusting further comprises adjusting a visual effect.

122. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the at least one computer processor is the computing device.

123. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the at least one computer processor is coupled to the computing device via a network, which includes at least another computing device.

124. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 123, wherein the network includes the Internet.

125. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, further comprising providing materials related to the question to be presented, if the answer to the question is not correct.

126. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one difficulty level, and

wherein the method further comprises providing materials with a difficulty level lower than the at least one difficulty level to be presented, if the answer to the question is not correct.

127. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein whether the answer to the question is correct or not does not affect the materials to be presented to the user.

128. (Previously presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question to be presented.

129. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 44, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

130. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 78, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set.

131. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 79, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

132. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 128, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set.

133. (Original) A computing apparatus for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display, which is coupled to the computing apparatus, the computing apparatus comprising:

an input device configured to receive a user input to a first window or to space outside of the first window,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via the display,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display; and

a processor configured to

cause materials on the subject to be presented to the user via the first window,

determine whether a user input is entered via the input device to the first window or to the space outside the first window, and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a preset time period, as determined by the processor, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered via the input device to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period, cause the materials for presentation on the subject to be adjusted,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received via the input device to the first window within the preset time period.

134. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

135. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

136. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

137. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the input device comprises a keyboard or position-pointing device.

138. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the input device comprises a camera.

139. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133,
wherein the apparatus retrieves and uses an attribute of the user, and
wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session where materials on a subject were presented to the user via the apparatus.

140. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a request asking the user to perform a function.

141. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a question asking the user to answer.

142. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 138,
wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect,
wherein the apparatus retrieves and uses an attribute of the user, and
wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session where materials on a subject were presented to the user via the apparatus.

143. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium including at least executable computer program code tangibly stored therein to assist a user to learn a subject, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for receiving a user input to a first window or to space outside of the first window,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via a display,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display;

computer program code for causing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via the first window;

computer program code for determining whether a user input is entered to the first window or to the space outside the first window; and

computer program code for causing the materials for presentation on the subject to be adjusted, upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a preset time period, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the preset time period.

144. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

145. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

146. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a request asking the user to perform a function.

147. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a question asking the user to answer.

148. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium including at least executable computer program code tangibly stored therein to assist a user to learn a subject, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for receiving a user input to a first window,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via a display,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display;

computer program code for causing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via the first window;

computer program code for determining whether a subsequent user input is entered to the first window or to the space outside the first window; and

computer program code for causing the materials for presentation on the subject to be adjusted, upon failure to receive a subsequent user input to the first window within a preset time period, and being aware of one or more subsequent user inputs having been entered to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a subsequent user input was received to the first window within the preset time period.

149. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 148, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

150. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 148, wherein the user input is received via a camera.

151. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 148, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a question asking the user to answer.

152. (Original) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 151 further comprising computer program code for receiving an answer from the user to the question.

153. (Original) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display, the method comprising:

determining, by a computer program, whether a first window receives a user input within a preset time period,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via the display,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the preset time period in view of the determining, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period, causing, by the computer program, to adjust materials for presentation on the subject to the user via the display, which includes switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the preset time period.

154. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 153, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

155. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 153, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

156. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 153, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

157. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 153 further comprising receiving, via an input device, a user input to the first window or to the space outside of the first window.

158. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 157, wherein the input device comprises a camera.

159. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 153 further comprising retrieving and using an attribute of the user to set materials for presentation to the user,

wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session, where materials were presented to the user.

160. (Previously presented) A computing apparatus for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display, which is coupled to the computing apparatus, the computing apparatus comprising:

a storage device; and

a processor coupled to the storage device, the processor configured to

determine, based on a computer program, whether a first window receives a user input within a preset time period,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via the display,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the preset time period in view of the determination, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period, cause, based on the computer program, to adjust materials for presentation on the subject to the user via the display, which includes switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the preset time period.

161. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 160, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

162. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 160, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

163. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 160, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

164. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 160 further comprising an input device configured to receive a user input to the first window or to the space outside of the first window.

165. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 164, wherein the input device comprises a camera.

166. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 160, wherein the processor is further configured to retrieve and use an attribute of the user to set materials for presentation to the user,

wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session, where materials were presented to the user.

167. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program to assist a user to learn a subject via a display by a method comprising:

determining whether a first window receives a user input within a preset time period,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via the display,
wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the preset time period in view of the determining, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period, causing to adjust materials for presentation on the subject to the user via the display, which includes switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the preset time period.

168. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 167, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

169. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 167, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

170. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 167, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

171. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 167, wherein the method further comprises receiving, via an input device, a user input to the first window or to the space outside of the first window.

172. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 171, wherein the input device comprises a camera.

173. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 167, wherein the method further comprises retrieving and using an attribute of the user to set materials for presentation to the user,

wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session, where materials were presented to the user.

174. (New) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display, the method comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented via the display that includes a focus window,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the focus window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the focus window includes one or more other windows, with at least one of those windows being at least partially viewable via the display;

determining that the materials presented are in a window other than the focus window; and

providing, based on the determination, an indication relating to the user's focus in the materials on the subject.

175. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 174 further comprising switching to alternative materials to be provided for presentation in view of the determination.

176. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 175, wherein the switching to alternative materials comprises activating an audio effect.

177. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 175, wherein the switching to alternative materials comprises changing a visual representation of materials on the subject to be presented.

178. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 174 further comprising determining that the materials presented are in a window other than the focus window for a duration of time.

179. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 174 further comprising providing at least an option for the user to decide how to proceed in the learning process to learn the subject in view of the determination.

180. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 174,
 wherein the providing an indication is performed by at least a computer processor, and
 wherein the computer processor is coupled to the display via a network, which includes at least another computing device.

181. (New) A computing apparatus for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display, which is coupled to the computing apparatus, the computing apparatus comprising:
 a storage device; and
 a computer processor, coupled to the storage device, configured to

provide materials on the subject to be presented via the display that includes a focus window,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the focus window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the focus window includes one or more other windows, with at least one of those windows being at least partially viewable via the display;

determine that the materials presented are in a window other than the focus window; and

provide, based on the determination, an indication relating to the user's focus in the materials on the subject.

182. (New) The computing apparatus of claim 181, wherein the computer processor is further configured to switch to alternative materials to be provided for presentation in view of the determination.

183. (New) The computing apparatus of claim 182, wherein the switch to alternative materials comprises activating an audio effect.

184. (New) The computing apparatus of claim 182, wherein the switch to alternative materials comprises changing a visual representation of materials on the subject to be presented.

185. (New) The computing apparatus of claim 181, wherein the computer processor is further configured to determine that the materials presented are in a window other than the focus window for a duration of time.

186. (New) The computing apparatus of claim 181, wherein the computer processor is further configured to provide at least an option for the user to decide how to proceed in the learning process to learn the subject in view of the determination.

187. (New) The computing apparatus of claim 181, wherein the computing apparatus is coupled to the display via a network, which includes at least another computing device.

188. (New) A non-transitory computer readable medium including at least executable computer program code tangibly stored therein to assist a user to learn a subject via a display, said computer readable medium comprising:

- computer program code for providing materials on the subject to be presented via the display that includes a focus window,

- wherein at least some of the space outside of the focus window is viewable via the display, and

- wherein the space outside of the focus window includes one or more other windows, with at least one of those windows being at least partially viewable via the display;

- computer program code for determining that the materials presented are in a window other than the focus window; and

- computer program code for providing, based on the determination, an indication relating to the user's focus in the materials on the subject.

189. (New) The non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 188 further comprising computer program code for switching to alternative materials to be provided for presentation in view of the determination.

190. (New) The computer program code of claim 189, wherein the switch to alternative materials comprises activating an audio effect.

191. (New) The computer program code of claim 189, wherein the switch to alternative materials comprises changing a visual representation of materials on the subject to be presented.

192. (New) The computer program code of claim 188 further comprising computer program code for determining that the materials presented are in a window other than the focus window for a duration of time.

193. (New) The computer program code of claim 188 further comprising computer program code for providing at least an option for the user to decide how to proceed in the learning process to learn the subject in view of the determination.

194. (New) The computer program code of claim 188, wherein the computer program code for providing an indication is performed by at least a computer processor that is coupled to the display via a network, which includes at least another computing device.